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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

he the Application of: Katsumi KIMURA et al.

Group Art Unit: 3681

Application No.: 10/505,218

Examiner: Ha Dinh Ho

Filed: August 20, 2004

Confirmation Number: 5157

For:

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DIFFERENTIAL PLANETARY GEAR APPARATUS AND

STARTING APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DIFFERENTIAL

PLANETARY GEAR APPARATUS

Attorney Docket Number:

042688

Customer Number:

38834

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 July 7, 2006

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Official Action dated June 16, 2006.

In the Action, Applicants are required to elect one of the following groups of claims for prosecution in this application:

Group I

Claims 1-5, drawn to a differential planetary gear apparatus;

Group II

Claims 6-10, drawn to a starting apparatus; or

Group III

Claim 11, draw to a starting method for a differential

planetary gear apparatus.

Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of Group I, claims 1-5. This election is made without traverse, it being understood that the Applicants' rights to the filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 U.S.C. §120 and 35 U.S.C. §121 are retained.

Response to Restriction Requirement Attorney Docket 042688

Application No. 10/505,218 Art Unit 3681

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. If any additional fees are due in connection with this paper, please charge Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted.

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, L

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